

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Appln. No. 09/960,345

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended): A rubber-based composite material comprising  
a non-woven fabric;  
a coating of a metal or metallic compound reactable with sulfur, the coating being formed  
on [[a]] at least one surface of filaments constituting the non-woven fabric by a physical vapor  
deposition (PVD) method or a chemical vapor deposition (CVD) method; and  
a rubber that adheres to the coating and that covers the non-woven fabric.